



Petition to Renew a Current Exemption Under 17 U.S.C. § 1201

9th Triennial Rulemaking

Please submit a separate petition for each current exemption for which renewal is sought.

NOTE: Use this form if you want to renew a current exemption without modification. If you are seeking to engage in activities not currently permitted by an existing exemption, including those that would require the expansion of a current exemption, you must submit a petition for a new exemption using the form available at copyright.gov/1201/2024/new-petition.pdf.

If you are seeking to expand a current exemption, we recommend that you submit both a petition to renew the current exemption without modification using this form, and, separately, a petition for a new exemption that identifies the current exemption and addresses only those issues relevant to the proposed expansion of that exemption.

ITEM A. PETITIONERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Please identify the petitioners and provide a means to contact the petitioners and/or their representatives, if any. The “petitioner” is the individual or entity seeking renewal.

Petitioner:

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Privacy Act Advisory Statement: Required by the Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)

The authority for requesting this information is 17 U.S.C. §§ 1201(a)(1) and 705. Furnishing the requested information is voluntary. The principal use of the requested information is publication on the Copyright Office website and use by Copyright Office staff for purposes of the rulemaking proceeding conducted pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1). NOTE: No other advisory statement will be given in connection with this application. Please keep this statement and refer to it if we communicate with you regarding this petition.

ITEM B. IDENTIFY WHICH CURRENT EXEMPTION PETITIONERS SEEK TO RENEW

Check the appropriate box below that corresponds with the current temporary exemption (see **37 C.F.R. § 201.40**) the petitioners seek to renew. Please check only one box. If renewal of more than one exemption is sought, a separate petition must be submitted for each one.

Motion Pictures (including television programs and videos):

- Excerpts for use in documentary filmmaking or other films where use is in parody or for a biographical or historically significant nature
- Excerpts for use in noncommercial videos
- Excerpts for use in nonfiction multimedia e-books
- Excerpts for educational purposes by college and university faculty, students, or employees acting at the direction of faculty, or K–12 educators and students
- Excerpts for educational purposes by faculty and employees acting at the direction of faculty in massive open online courses (“MOOCs”)
- Excerpts for educational purposes in digital and literacy programs offered by libraries, museums, and other nonprofits
- For the provision of captioning and/or audio description by disability services offices or similar units at educational institutions for students, faculty, or staff with disabilities
- For the preservation or the creation of a replacement copy of the motion picture by libraries, archives, or museums
- For text and data mining by a researcher affiliated with a nonprofit institution of higher education, or by student or staff at the direction of such researcher, for the purpose of scholarly research and teaching

Literary Works:

- Literary works distributed electronically for text and data mining by a researcher affiliated with a nonprofit institution of higher education, or by student or staff at the direction of such researcher, for the purpose of scholarly research and teaching
- Literary works or previously published musical works that have been fixed in the form of text or notation whose technological protection measures interfere with assistive technologies
- Literary works consisting of compilations of data generated by medical devices or their personal corresponding monitoring systems, to access personal data

Computer Programs and Video Games:

- Computer programs that operate wireless devices, to allow connection to an alternative wireless network (“unlocking”)
- Computer programs that operate smartphones and portable all-purpose mobile computing devices to allow the device to interoperate with or to remove software applications (“jailbreaking”)
- Computer programs that operate smart televisions to allow the device to interoperate with software applications on the television for purposes other than gaining unauthorized access to copyrighted works (“jailbreaking”)
- Computer programs that operate voice assistant devices to allow the device to interoperate with or to remove software applications for purposes other than gaining unauthorized access to copyrighted works (“jailbreaking”)
- Computer programs that operate routers and dedicated network devices to allow the device to interoperate with software applications on the device for purposes other than gaining unauthorized access to copyrighted works (“jailbreaking”)
- Computer programs that control motorized land vehicles, marine vessels, or mechanized agricultural vehicles or vessels for purposes of diagnosis, repair, or modification of the vehicle, including to access diagnostic data
- Computer programs that control devices designed primarily for use by consumers for diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the device or system
- Computer programs that control medical devices or systems, and related data files, for diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the device or system
- Computer programs for purposes of good-faith security research
- Video games for which outside server support has been discontinued, to allow individual play by gamers and preservation of games by libraries, archives, and museums (as well as necessary jailbreaking of console computer code for preservation uses only), and discontinued video games that never required server support, for preservation by libraries, archives, and museums
- Computer programs other than video games, for the preservation of computer programs and computer program-dependent materials by libraries, archives, and museums
- Computer programs that operate 3D printers, to allow use of alternative material
- Computer programs for purpose of investigating potential infringement of free and open source computer programs
- Video games in the form of computer programs for purpose of allowing an individual with a physical disability to use alternative software or hardware input methods

ITEM C. EXPLANATION OF NEED FOR RENEWAL

Provide a brief explanation summarizing the continuing need and justification for renewing the exemption. The Office anticipates that petitioners will provide a paragraph or two detailing this information, but there is no page limit. While it is permissible to attach supporting documentary evidence as exhibits to this petition, it is not necessary. Below is a hypothetical example of the kind of explanation that the Office would regard as sufficient to support renewal of the unlocking exemption. The Office notes, however, that explanations can take many forms and may differ significantly based on the individual making the declaration and the exemption at issue.

iFixit is dedicated to protecting and empowering consumers' right to repair their devices. iFixit teaches consumers how to repair their devices, from mobile phones to trucks they own. iFixit also helps to advocate for legislation that enables the right to repair by independent repair shops and consumers. This year marks our 20th anniversary of our founding.

Our website has a large section devoted to information concerning the ability to repair motorized vehicles from family cars to sports cars to trucks. https://www.ifixit.com/Device/Car_and_Truck

We help consumers learn how to repair more than 50 makes of automobiles and trucks, as well as recreational vehicles and particular types of auto parts and systems.

Much of the information on our website is contributed by consumers and professionals who want to help individuals diagnose and resolve problems with their vehicles. These contributions can cover a range of repair problems covering basic to unusual issues that can affect any vehicle parts and systems. We provide a forum to post questions and solutions, often with links to manuals and videos leading the consumer step-by-step through the process of diagnosis and repair.

In the past, a vehicle owner or repair shop could fix or improve vehicle performance solely by mechanical adjustments. Over the last 15 years, vehicle functions have been controlled by software embedded in electronic control modules. Today, a single vehicle commonly will have 50 or more such software controlled ECMs. A car owner or repair shop must access vehicle software in order to restore and adjust vehicle functionality and to offer upgrades and aftermarket products.

Many of these software modules are protected using technological measures that prevent access to the software, and thereby prevent vehicle owners from diagnosing, maintaining, and repairing that vehicle part and the overall operation of the vehicle. Unless this exemption is renewed, the software measures manufacturers deploy for the purpose of controlling access to vehicle software will prevent consumers and independent repair shops from lawfully diagnosing, maintaining, repairing, and upgrading their vehicles.

These technological protection measures generally are not deployed to prevent copyrighted content from copying. Rather, motor vehicle manufacturers adopted these technological protection measures intending to hinder access by consumers and independent repair shops to the software that is necessary to car repair. These TPMs wall off access to non-copyrightable parameters and software functions that must be altered for a car owner to perform the work necessary to improve or optimize vehicle performance. They also prevent development of technical improvements and diagnostic tools that promote the right to repair.

The exemption is needed for consumers who wish to repair their own cars. Approximately 20 percent of American consumers buy automotive parts and products to maintain and repair their own vehicles. The economic issues related to COVID-19 increased the importance to motor vehicle owners of being able to perform diagnostic, repair, and maintenance work themselves. The exemption provides a cost-effective way for these consumers to perform their own maintenance and repairs where circumvention of a technological protection measure is needed to access vehicle software controls.

Given the continuing trend toward the use of software to perform and control motor vehicle functions, and the implementation of technological measures to prevent independent repair shops and consumers from accessing that software, iFixit submits that the exemption remains necessary for the next triennial period.

ITEM C. EXPLANATION OF NEED FOR RENEWAL (CONT'D)

[Empty rectangular box for providing the explanation of need for renewal.]

ITEM D. DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

The declaration is a sworn statement made under penalty of perjury and must be signed by one of the petitioners named above.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the following is true and correct:

1. Based on my own personal knowledge and experience, I have a good faith belief that but for the above-selected exemption's continuation during the next triennial period (October 2024–October 2027), technological measures controlling access to relevant copyrighted works are likely to diminish the ability of relevant users to make noninfringing uses of these works, and such users are likely to rely upon the above-selected exemption during the next triennial period.
2. To the best of my knowledge, there has not been any material change in the facts, law, or other circumstances set forth in the prior rulemaking record (available at copyright.gov/1201/2021) that originally demonstrated the need for the above-selected exemption, such that renewal of the exemption would not be justified.
3. To the best of my knowledge, the explanation provided in Item C above is true and correct and supports the above statements.

Name/Organization:

If the petitioner is an entity, this declaration must be signed by an individual at the organization having appropriate personal knowledge.

Kyle Wiens, CEO
iFixit

Signature:

This declaration may be signed electronically (e.g., "/s/ John Smith").

/s/ Kyle Wiens

Date:

July 6, 2023